

## Scleral needling technique



Scleral needling technique is a novel, safe, and simple alternative to suturing for effectively securing leaking sclerotomies in microincision vitrectomy surgery. After air–fluid exchange and trocar cannula removal (A), air bubbles are visualized at the site of wound leakage by dripping balanced salt solution over the open sclerotomy (B). A closed 30-gauge needle syringe is perpendicularly inserted full thickness through the sclera adjacent to the scleral opening and removed immediately (C). The wound is then pressed with a blunt cannula. Any residual leakage is detected with balanced salt irrigation solution, and repeated needle insertions are used until sclerotomy closure is achieved (D). The proposed mechanisms of action include vitreous strands plugging the internal os of the sclerotomy or sudden drop in pressure created by the exiting needle from the sclera. We have previously demonstrated that the number of eyes requiring suture closure is significantly reduced with the use of this technique (Felfeli T, Altomare F, Mandelcorn ED. Sutureless Closure of 23- and

25-Gauge Leaking Sclerotomies With the Scleral Needling Technique. *Retina*, 40(5):838-844).

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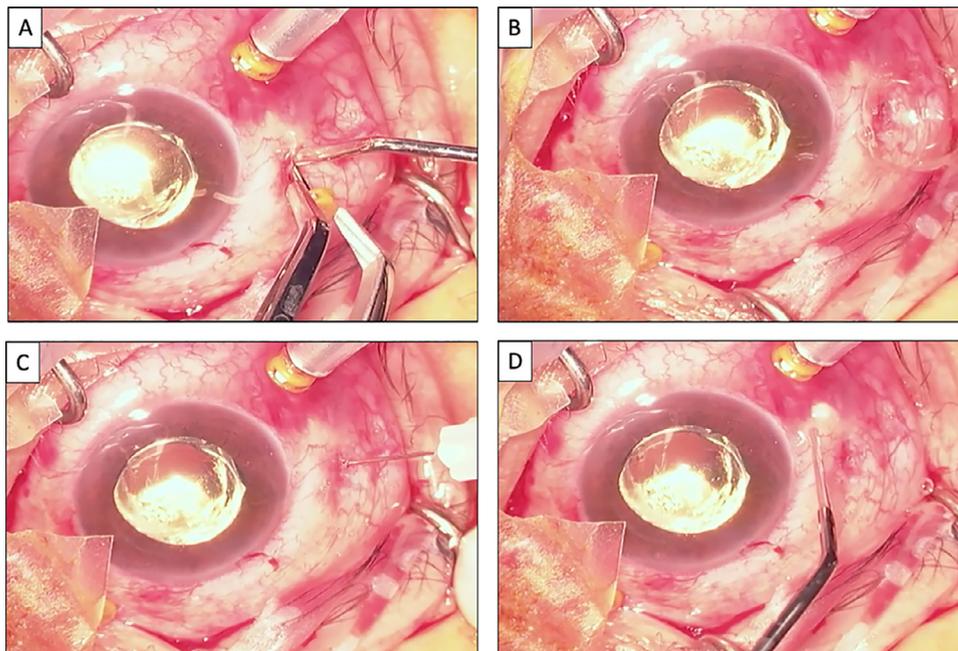
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## Footnotes and Disclosure

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## Severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis complicated by anaesthetic abuse



A 22-year-old man with a history of atopy and vernal keratoconjunctivitis presented for a nonhealing complete

corneal epithelial defect of the right eye (Fig. A, B). Biomicroscopy was notable for giant papillae on everted lids (Fig. C). Infectious etiologies were ruled out. The patient disclosed a 2-week history of daily topical anaesthetics use. A diagnosis of severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis complicated by anaesthetic abuse was made. Despite outpatient